

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 6, 12 and 13 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please amend Claims 1 to 4, 7 to 10 and 14 as follows. The claims, as pending in the subject application, read as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A control method for an image printing apparatus having a memory and spool means for temporarily storing received data as a print job file in the memory, comprising:
  - a the detection step of detecting during a bootstrap process whether at least a the print job file is stored in the memory in boot; and
  - a bootstrap time update step of detecting a present bootstrap time, and of updating a previous bootstrap time stored in a nonvolatile memory to the detected present bootstrap time;
  - a comparison step of comparing the previous bootstrap time stored in the nonvolatile memory and the detected present bootstrap time, to determine a difference therebetween; and
  - a the print job file delete step of deleting all the print job files from the memory, file when at least a the print job file is stored in the memory and when the difference falls within a predetermined time period is detected.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the boot bootstrap process includes boot bootstrap processing performed in activation, resetting, or abnormal operation.

3. (Currently Amended) The memory according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

an the operation step of executing processing for an abnormality generated in the image printing apparatus[[],]; and

a the second detection step of detecting execution of the processing for the abnormality, and

wherein in the print job file delete step, the print job file is files are deleted when execution of the processing for the abnormality is detected in the second detection step.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

a nonvolatile memory, and

an the abnormality informing step of, when an abnormality occurs in the image printing apparatus, classifying contents of the abnormality into an abnormality caused by the print job file and an abnormality not caused by the print job file, and storing the contents in the nonvolatile memory, and

wherein in the print job file delete step, the print job file is deleted when the abnormality is an abnormality caused by the print job file.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the abnormality caused by the print job file includes at least one of memory overflow, an abnormal instruction, download overflow, and an invalid format.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) An image printing apparatus having a memory and spool means for temporarily storing received data as a print job file in the memory, comprising:

detection means for detecting during a bootstrap process whether at least a  
the print job file is stored in the memory in boot; and

a nonvolatile memory for storing a bootstrap time;

bootstrap time update means for detecting a present bootstrap time, and for  
updating a previous bootstrap time stored in said nonvolatile memory to the detected  
present bootstrap time;

comparison means for comparing the previous bootstrap time stored in said  
nonvolatile memory and the detected present bootstrap time, to determine a difference  
therebetween; and

print job file delete means for deleting all the print job files from the  
memory, file when at least a the print job file is stored in the memory and when the  
difference falls within a predetermined time period is detected.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein  
the boot bootstrap process includes boot bootstrap processing performed in activation,  
resetting, or abnormal operation.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the apparatus further comprises:

operation means for executing processing for an abnormality generated in the image printing apparatus[[],]; and

second detection means for detecting execution of the processing for the abnormality, ~~and~~

wherein said print job file delete means deletes the print job ~~file~~ files when execution of the processing for the abnormality is detected by said second detection means.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the apparatus further comprises:

~~a nonvolatile memory, and~~

abnormality informing means for, when an abnormality occurs in the image printing apparatus, classifying contents of the abnormality into an abnormality caused by the print job file and an abnormality not caused by the print job file, and storing the contents in said nonvolatile memory, ~~and~~

wherein said print job file delete means deletes the print job file when the abnormality is an abnormality caused by the print job file.

11. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the abnormality caused by the print job file includes at least one of memory overflow, an abnormal instruction, download overflow, and an invalid format.

12 to 13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a computer-executable control program for controlling an image printing apparatus having a memory and spool means for temporarily storing received data as a print job file in the memory, wherein the control program comprises:

[[a]] code for a ~~of the~~ detection step of detecting during a bootstrap process whether at least a ~~the~~ print job file is stored in the memory ~~in boot~~; and

code for a bootstrap time update step of detecting a present bootstrap time, and for updating a previous bootstrap time stored in a nonvolatile memory to the detected present bootstrap time;

code for a comparison step of comparing the previous bootstrap time stored in the nonvolatile memory and the detected present bootstrap time, to determine a difference therebetween; and

[[a]] code for a ~~of the~~ print job file delete step of deleting all the print job files from the memory, ~~file~~ when at least a ~~the~~ print job file is stored in the memory and when the difference falls within a predetermined time period is detected.